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The Indians.

Since June 19 Gen. Crook's force has been idle. But little scouting has been done, except in the most desultory manner, and it has been supplemented by no active movement of the main body looking to the terminating of the campaign. All the plans of the commander have apparently hung upon the prospective accession of reinforcements. Opportunities for definitely ascertaining the position and movements of the enemy have not been improved. The ends and means seem to have been permitted to exercise their presumable function of observation just so little as has suited them, and if any incitement has been applied to inspire them with the energy which would be essential to their usefulness it has borne no fruit. I believe the truth is that Gen. Crook, since the disaster to Lieut. Sibley's reconnoitring party, as he was before that, has been content to ignore the manœuvres of the Sioux until he should be in entire readiness to once more move against them. The country for the last three weeks has been for miles around us overhung by a murky pall, which proves that the prairie has been fired in many places. On several evenings the glare of the flames has lit up the sky with a lurid glow, which seemed an angry omen. Probably the Sioux have been causing the destruction of the grass in order to embarrass the cavalry by creating a wide belt of prairie on which their horses can find no subsistence. This action may be part of the execution of a grand scheme by which they hope to foil the white troops when the time arrives when they will be compelled to retire for the purpose of refitting. The reports recently brought here by Gen. Crook, with a duplicate dispatch from Brigadier General Terry, encourage a suspicion that the wily foe intended to intercept the families and property among the mountains while, after recuperation, they continue to contest the dominion of the plain. It is not to be doubted that there are spirits among them who foresee the inevitable end of an open struggle, and that, through their counsel, a place of final refuge has been or will be selected. Should they retire to this, the Sioux warriors, with their strong numbers and excellent arms, would defy a siege of much greater duration and difficulty than that which a handful of Modocs in the lava beds of Northern California were conquered. It is known that there are white renegades among them whose superior intelligence and education they rightly value as enabling them to anticipate the military methods of campaigning. They have advised the occupation of the mountains. From their long warfare with the Crows, the Sioux have learned the strength of those natural fortresses. Since their first invasion of the country west of the Missouri their advance was contested foot by foot, and they owed their success more to the ravages of disease among their enemies than to themselves. Their ferocity has been unsurpassed, but their valor could never compare with that of the surrounding tribes, whom they overcame with numbers. They have enjoyed the continued alliance of but one of them, the Cheyenne. Its origin, by the way, would be of interest to the anthropologist. Its true story is involved in the mists of tradition, but they afford sufficient substance for the basis of a fruitful investigation, which when the present Indian war has receded as far in the memory of the living generation as has that of Tecumseh, would be perhaps of historical importance. It is believed by old interpreters that the Cheyennes are a mongrel breed, derived from renegades of most of the tribes of the Plains. Ever since the white man's knowledge of them began, young braves, ambitious of distinction, have annually made outlaws of themselves to prey after the manner of bandits upon every corner and goer of whatever race. They called themselves "dog-soldiers," and their exploits gave to the name the prestige always derived from dashing courage and audacity. But many of them did such atrocious deeds—atrocity even to the savage code—that every man's hand was turned against them, and they could never safely return to communities in which they were born. Every year they gained new accessions. Many of them, however, dreamed of the black-haired maidens they had left behind them, and the more desperate were their outlawry the more earnest their craving for the presence of women, which has a gentle spell over the most brutalized beast. So they endeavored to capture and to steal squaws from the lodges of their native villages, and probably some of the dusky Marias therein dwelling were nothing less to be whisked away on flat ponies in the arms of covetous lovers, who were so famed for the cruel and cunning courage, which is the red man's glory. With the growth of their families the "dog-soldiers" began to be regarded as a separate band. The French missionaries, trappers, hunters and traders who mixed among the dusky population of the wilderness insensibly injected Gallic words into nearly every aboriginal dialect. One of these was *chien*, as it is modestly spelled, which bears a striking phonological resemblance to the Dakota word of the same meaning, *shunka*. Owing perhaps to the influence of both of these, the term Cheyenne or Shienne became the designation for a "dog soldier." Perhaps the derivation of the tribe from the most daring and desperate outlaws of the Sioux, Pawnees, Crows, Kiowas, Shoshones, Comanches, Mandans, &c., explains the peculiar inbred character which the Cheyennes undoubtedly possess, but there is no doubt that they are the bravest and most skilled warriors among the Indians. Since General Miles' campaign against them in Kansas the southern Cheyennes have longed to identify their fortunes with those of the northern band, and have frequently joined them in raiding under their own leader, the famous and terrible White Antelope. Weak numerically, the Cheyennes always inspire in the larger tribes with which they form alliances their own warlike temper. For many years they have been the confederates of the Sioux, have led them to battle and have set them the example of ferocity. They were the most dangerous element in the Red Cloud Council of last fall. Sitting Bull's, Crazy Horse's, and Little Big Man's warriors are now called "dog soldiers." "Drawn out the Cheyennes, Ogalalas, Umpapas, Ojibwas, Minneconjoues and Kiowas. But they are inclined to war and sustained in their sanguinary spirit by the Cheyennes. It was recently reported that 1,200 of the latter had left the Red Cloud agency but two weeks ago, immediately after receiving annuities and ra-

tions from the government. Nothing could illustrate more forcibly the stupidity of the administration of Indian affairs than the facts which I have just adduced. It is well known that the Cheyennes who remain north of the Platte River do so in perverse violation of the wishes of the government and their own engagement. Their reservation, as well as that of all the Arapahoes, is in the Indian Territory, and they left it to escape the control of their agent. Their constant employment for years has been the generation of mischief against the whites, whether they possessed grievances or not to justify them. Yet their affiliation with the most powerful savage people under our tutelage, with the danger to be apprehended from it, very palpably illustrated by preceding events, has been permitted for a long period, and has aided greatly in precipitating the Sioux war. Could anything be more imbecile than the issuing of supplies to the Cheyennes, who are the known allies of the Sioux, while they are off their own reservation and on that of the latter? The influence of the contractors who furnish and forward supplies to the agents on the White River is the secret cause of the feeding and clothing of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, 400 miles from their home. The hypocrisy of an inspector like Vandever and the pliability of an agent like Saville or Howard are the cloak under which the sordid schemes of Boslers and McCanns have been executed. The rascally officials which the government secures, by virtue of its ingardly economy, to impersonate to the ludion the white man's justice, have brought about the present hostilities, although the head of the military department of the Platte is responsible for having precipitated instead of endeavoring to obviate them. If the Sioux retreat into the mountains the campaign will probably be prolonged until the winter, and artillery will be necessary in the field. General Crook, however, has a peculiar prejudice against the utility of this arm of the service against the Indians, although in the battle of the Rosebud it certainly would have been of great avail. At present those who see him every day and converse with him, even field officers, are as ignorant of his plans as they were when the expedition was first organized. He seems to have formed his estimate of the Sioux from his experience of the Apaches, and the surprise which he suffered on June 17, was the first awakening from this delusion. Nothing is more certain than that the Apaches are insignificant and contemptible in comparison with the Sioux. Yet, although a stranger to the latter at the beginning of his administration in the department, General Crook, as well as I can learn, consulted none of his subordinates regarding their knowledge of the enemy whom he was about to fight. Many of these gallant gentlemen had been constantly engaged in dealing with the Sioux in their military capacity since 1866. Ever since its departure from Fort Tetterman the conduct of this expedition has been remarkable for the contempt shown by the general commanding for many of the fundamental principles of military policy. One might have inferred that the enemy against whom we were moving was impotent and harmless. The march has been unguarded; the camps have not been computed enough for the most advantageous position; the scouting has been without system; the troops, although many of them were the bravest recruits, have scarcely been drilled, notwithstanding that they have been languishing in idleness for nearly two months, and the proximity of Indians has not been taken advantage of to strike them a blow. The campaign, thus far, bears a close resemblance to the generalship of McClellan, so far as results are concerned, but is very dissimilar from it in respect to military principles. All these shortcomings, however, may be attributed to the fact that before 1876 no general officer of the army had occasion or opportunity to learn how to fight the Sioux. After arming our enemy as well, it is not better than ourselves, we need not be surprised if in a tournament he may be as near overthrowing us as we him. General Crook has now the benefit of experience and an accession of force to enable him to lead on to victory, and there is reason to hope that the month of August will witness a decided triumph, provided that the Sioux are still disposed to try the fortune of battle. The Crow country, from General Terry who arrived on the 21st said that two steamers had reached his camp on the Yellowstone with troops, horses and provisions. His column is probably marching toward us now. General Crook dispatched a messenger named Kelly, who turned back twice, beset by the Sioux; but he started a third time on the 20th and has not since been heard of. He went about and was shot in the back. His intention was to travel only at night and to be concealed in bushes in the daytime. He boasted that he could walk fifty miles without rest and sun. Pedestrianism was not his only method of accomplishing the journey, as without a horse he could more easily escape observation and would make no trail. The Shoshones are well nourished in camp, and seem to entertain conceit of their fortune. An ally who entertains them in idleness apparently wins their hearts. They construct wonderfully comfortable hovels with willow saplings and their twigs, and enjoy existence with a lay relish. Twenty of the warriors are accompanied by their squaws, and there are three maidens who will probably bestow themselves upon the bravest of young braves, so proven in battle. Washakie, the chief of all the Northern Shoshones, is a man of handsome features and imposing stature. His form is massive, but symmetrical. His face in profile resembles that of Bechler, the emotionalist; in front it resembles that of Spotted Tail, the chief of the Brules, and his eyes have the same bright and intelligent twinkle, mingled with gleams of benevolent humor. Contact with civilization seems to have ripened his originally noble nature. He is a true friend of the white man, and one who makes his acquaintance cannot help believing in a kinship of mind between him and paler-skinned of the more fortunate Caucasian race. Washakie has cultivated his intelligence throughout his life and has adapted the language of his tribe to an alphabet. His hair is silvered with the hoary dust of sixty years, but he looks as young as if he had found in the Shoshone Sierra Mount the fountain which Ponce de Leon sought in vain in the land of flowers. Mrs. Washakie is a buxom squaw of matronly appearance. If she has any matrimonial rivals in the tepee at home she doubtless enjoys the special favor of her chief, as she accompanies him to the war would do. She dresses in black and scarlet, and greases her heavy jetty hair plentifully with bacon fat, so that it falls in smooth masses on both sides of her head. Erected before Washakie's wicki-up are always two medicine wands, bound together with strips of red flannel and decked with streamers and red feathers. They are talismans to insure the amity of the good spirits. All the other warriors have less pretensions. The younger braves devote themselves to racing every day about an hour before sunset, and their ponies show wonderful speed. In the evening they sit under their sylvan shelters and sing in monotonous chorus until overpowered by slumber. Unfortunately the wolves that prowl about the camp, too often begin their fearful howling soon afterward, and thus the civilized campaigner suffers martyrdom.—Letter in the New York Herald.

MEDICINAL TAKE

SIMMONS' LIVER REGULATOR

For all Diseases of the Liver, Stomach and Spleen.

After Forty Years' trial it is still receiving the most unqualified testimonials of its virtues from persons of the highest character and responsibility.

It is eminently a Family Medicine, and by being kept ready for immediate resort will save many an hour of suffering and many a dollar in time and money.

DOCTORS' BILLS.

Your Regulator is one of the best family medicines I ever used. I have not spent one dollar for my family for medicine in five years, only for your Regulator, and must say it does all it says it will. You can also recommend it in Colic for Stock, it having cured a fine mule of mine worth five hundred dollars.—(J. A. Nelson, Mason, Ga.)

The Liver, the largest organ in the body, is generally the seat of the disease, and if not regulated in time great suffering, weakness and DEATH will ensue.

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Hon. Alexander H. Stephens.

"Occasionally use, when my condition requires it, Dr. Simmons' Liver Regulator, with good effect."—(Hon. Alex. H. Stephens, Governor of Alabama.)

"Your Regulator has been in use in my family for some time, and I am persuaded it is a valuable addition to the medical science."—(Gov. J. Gill Shorter, Ala.)

"I have used the Regulator in my family for the past seventeen years. I can safely recommend it to the world as the best medicine I have ever used for the class of diseases it purports to cure."—(H. F. Thigpen.)

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This medicine is acknowledged to have no equal as a Liver Medicine, containing those Southern Roots and Herbs which an all-wise Providence has placed in countries where Liver Diseases most prevail.

Lady's Endorsement.

"I have given your medicine a thorough trial, and in no case has it failed to give full satisfaction."—(Ellen Mearns, Chattanooga, Fla.)

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"From actual experience in the use of this medicine in my practice I have been, and am, satisfied to use and prescribe it as a purgative medicine."—(Dr. J. W. Mason.)

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West Virginia Splint.

For sale at the lowest market rates, per ton of 2240 lbs.

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KANAWHA SPLINT COAL.

We have just received a consignment of the above Coal, to which we invite the attention of consumers. It is pure and free from slate, kindles readily and heats quickly. Its combustion is complete, leaving no cinders.

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The celebrated CONTINENTAL and HAZEL DELL, from the Goodrich Colliery, esteemed the best in the market.

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ANTHRACITE COAL, of Steamer, Broken, Egg Stone and Nut sizes.

Also, GEORGE'S CREEK CUMBERLAND COAL.

Also HICKORY, OAK and PINE WOOD.

Having ample space, each variety of Coal is kept distinct from that of others, and is especially prepared for family use. Yards flooded and Coal sent out well screened and free from slate, 2240 lbs. to the ton. Orders left with Messrs. Clarridge & Griggs, corner King and Royal sts., or at the yards will be promptly filled.

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Jan 17 Wharf and Yards foot of Queen st.

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Barbers' & Hair Dressing Saloon

PRINCE STREET,

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None but first class Barbers employed.

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PRIME SUGAR-CURED SHOULDERS,

small sizes, just received by

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NEW STORE! NEW GOODS! NEW PRICES!

The subscriber respectfully announces that he has taken the store

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and is prepared to offer a full and carefully selected stock of

FINE FAMILY GROCERIES

at prices which cannot fail to please. Goods delivered promptly to all parts of the city, and satisfaction guaranteed in every particular. An inspection of stock solicited

my 5-11 F. J. DAVIDSON.

W. A. JOHNSON.

[Successor to Johnson & Sherwood.]

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All orders from the country will receive prompt and careful attention. Jan 25-14

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Wanted, in exchange for the Furniture, Walnut, Popular, Oak, Maple, Birch and Cedar Logs

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my 31

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